

Minutes for the June 29, 2022, Gerald Park Association Board of Directors Meeting Held at the GPA Park

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm. A quorum was established. All nine Board of Directors members attended. Attending in person were Lisa Catanese, Eric Miller, Raymond Perugini, John Petrovits, Kevin Ryan, Syd Seale, and Dave Sutherland. Attending via phone were Pam Cropley and Teri Norman.

Audience of Members: Two Gerald Park residents spoke on various issues. No vote was taken by the Board.

Minutes: Minutes from the May 11, 2022, GPA Board of Directors meeting were approved with no changes. Motion by Eric Miller, seconded by John Petrovits, unanimously approved.

President's Report: Eric Miller asked that GPA members take their beach toys with them as they leave the beach.

Tax Collector's Report: Laura Young sent an email saying there were no changes from the report she submitted at the June 15 Budget Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Sutherland reported that our insurance policy payment is due July 1, which is the first day of each year's new budget, but we were given an extension until July 11. Payment for the port-a-potty is due as well. Board members suggested changing the insurance policy terms so that payment would be due August 1 instead, to avoid having to pay it on the first day the new budget, before tax bills went out. John Petrovits made a motion, seconded by Teri Norman and unanimously approved, that if necessary, payment could be made from the Capital Improvements budget and then put back once taxes are collected, since not allowing the policy to lapse is so important. Board members also discussed the possibility of setting up a Venmo account to make it more convenient for members to pay their taxes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Avery Shores Turnover: John Petrovits reported that the town has submitted a reply as the next step in the process, and he will meet with our attorney to form a response to it. He also explained that after the full membership voted to proceed with the Writ of Mandamus, court activity slowed due to COVID restrictions. The past budget, therefore, didn't budget additional funds for the attorney because it was unknown what, if any, costs would be incurred in that year. When court activity resumed, the GPA was not in a position to hold off until the next budget vote, so the attorney went ahead with the next steps associated with the Writ. Funds have been provided in the current budget that was approved by GPA members on June 15, 2022. Eric Miller said he hopes this clears up any misconceptions that the Board spend money it did not have, since we were simply complying with the vote of members.

Beach & Beautification: Kelley Sutherland reported that the bench at the beach was put in properly with enough cement, and that it was sturdy, but some dirt around it had receded. Board members will bring in more dirt to fill the area, and will tighten the bolts on the bench as well.

Member Involvement Committee: Full moon kayaking will be held on July 13, August 11, and September 10. Board members also divided up responsibilities for Gerald Park Day on Saturday, July 16. Lisa Catanese will send out an email to remind members to bring chairs and a dessert or side dish, and to reply with the number of attendees, including children.

Environmental: The lake is cloudier than usual, likely due to pollen or algae. Lisa Catanese gets weekly reports on the testing of water along Avery Shores, and so far very little bacteria is present.

Fuel Oil Cooperative: Finished for the year.

Website: No updates.

Welcome to GPA: No updates.

Bylaws subcommittee: On hold.

GPA taxes subcommittee: On hold.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chase Avenue/paper road discussion: The Board views this as two issues. The first is a request by individuals building a house adjacent to Chase Avenue that GPA pay \$2500 to remove some dead trees on GPA property. Board members said they would need an expert's opinion that the trees posed a hazard to people or property if they fell. Unfortunately, the owners were not present at the meeting to discuss this in greater detail. It will remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

The second issue is the larger one of the GPA owning several of these "paper roads" and members having to pay for tree removal and maintenance when requested. The Board suggests a committee be established to study the issue and come back with recommendation. It will be put before the full membership at the September Annual Meeting to solicit volunteers.

NEW BUSINESS:

Decorum of members at GPA meetings: After numerous disruptions at the June budget meeting and at regular Board of Directors meetings, the Board set a formal policy.

- They will follow Roberts Rules of Order more closely.
- The Board will serve as role models for good behavior.
- The goal is to conduct neighborhood business peacefully and effectively, for the good of the Association.
- Any disruptive members will be asked to leave.
- If the individuals refuse and the behavior persists, the Board will pause the meeting until there is compliance.

September meeting agenda items: The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 14. John Petrovits will look into whether it can be held at a school instead of in the park, to avoid problems with weather. On the agenda will be:

- The election of 3 board members (terms of Pam Cropley, Raymond Perugini, and Teri Norman are expiring).
- The paper roads issue.
- Decorum at GPA meetings.

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: The next meeting of the GPA will be Wednesday, August 10, at 6pm at the park, or via Zoom in the case of inclement weather.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.